

HONORING THE FORMER CONGRESSMAN DOUGLAS APPLE-GATE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on behalf of the Members of the House of Representatives to honor the former Congressman Douglas Applegate. In a ceremony on April 17th, the name of the Steubenville Post Office will officially be changed to the Douglas Applegate Post Office. The Honorable JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR., of the 17th District of Ohio sponsored the legislation to name the post office, and it was signed into law by President Bill Clinton on November 19, 1997.

Former Congressman Douglas Applegate has been a leader in his hometown of Steubenville, Ohio, since graduating from Steubenville High School and going onto a career in politics serving the citizens of Ohio in the Ohio House of Representatives and later in the Ohio Senate. Mr. Applegate was elected to Congress in 1976, and served diligently for eighteen years to improve senior citizens, veterans, labor and consumer issues.

Douglas Applegate has proven his commitment to his community and to his country and he has worked continuously to make it a better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the former Congressman Douglas Applegate for his thirty-three years of dedication as a public servant, and congratulating him. I wish him continued success, health and prosperity.

1998 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3579) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Chairman, I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Appropriations Committee for all they have done to accomplish our objective of providing assistance to the dairy farmers and tree farmers in New York and the other Northeastern states who suffered devastating damage as a result of the ice storm which struck earlier this year.

Unfortunately, the President's supplemental funding request did not adequately address the losses which were suffered by the agricultural industry. With the help of my House colleagues, JIM WALSH and JERRY SOLOMON, we have successfully rallied support in Congress to add funding to help our farmers who are struggling to recover from the devastation.

I know that some of the funding we were successful in getting approved—compensation for diminished milk production—is unprecedented and I understand that some Members

are concerned about this fact. But let there be no mistake—the losses in Northern New York and throughout the Northeast, along with areas of the country—represent a unique situation. The assistance we are providing in this bill represents a small, but vitally important, step forward on their road to recovery.

The loss of electric power had enormous repercussions simply beyond inconvenience. As the third largest dairy producer in the nation, Northern New York is the state's largest dairy region. Without power, dairy farmers were unable to milk their herds. Those with generators—an instrument which, as the hours without power turned into days and then weeks, became one of the region's most sought-after and precious commodities—who were able to milk frequently had to dump their milk because the roads were impassable and the milk trucks were unable to get through to pick up their product. Those lucky enough to be able to milk and get their product to the producer were frequently confronted with the milk plant being without power. At the end of the day, millions of pounds of milk had been dumped. In addition, because of their inability to milk the herds, or to milk on a normal schedule, many contracted mastitis, an illness which if not treated can kill the cow. In many instances, the illness is treatable, but it will be many weeks, if not months, before the cow is back on a regular production cycle. In the meantime, the farmers have lost critical production—and money right out of their pocket.

Our initial hope that the federal disaster declaration would speed assistance to farmers was soon shattered as it became clear the Farm Service Agency's primary form of assistance was low interest loans. Federal programs to replace livestock losses or dairy production are either expired, do not apply to dairy farmers or are non-existent. To these dairy farmers, many of whom are already operating on the margins due to a 20 year low in milk prices, low interest loans are not even an option. They simply cannot afford it.

Mr. Chairman, despite its precedence, what this bill offers in assistance to the dairy farmers is not outrageous. It conforms to the parameters of assistance programs by offering to make payments to farmers of up to 30 percent of their losses. It in no way makes them whole. What it does do is offer them light at the end of the tunnel and can well mean a make or break situation. These are family farmers—not conglomerates. They deserve no less than we are offering them here.

In this bill we also provide assistance to maple sugar producers, Christmas tree farmers, and orchardists, among others. The ice wreaked havoc on these tree growers, as well, and it will take decades for many of them to recover from the kind of damage they suffered. Here too, these funds will help them on that road to recovery.

Finally, I am pleased that we were able to secure Community Development Block Grant funding to assist homeowners in the Northeast meet those needs which have been left unmet by other federal assistance programs.

IN MEMORY OF RUSSELL T. KIKO AND WILLARD L. KIKO

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to two special men and great entrepreneurs, Russell T. Kiko and Willard L. Kiko, both of whom recently passed away. These remarkable men contributed greatly to their communities, and will be deeply missed.

Natives of Ohio, Russell, born in 1915, and his younger brother Willard, born in 1922, were the sons of German immigrants. They grew up on their family's farm, where they lived and learned with their seven other brothers and sisters.

Russell stayed on his family's farm until 1944, when he first became involved in the auction business as a part-time job. In pursuit of this interest, he attended the Reppert School of Auctioneering in Decatur, Indiana. In 1945, using the vast stores of knowledge he gained during his time at Reppert, Russell started his own auction barn, Russ Kiko Associates, Inc. During its first year the business made \$1,500. Due to Russ's dedication and expertise, Russ Kiko Associated, Inc. has grown from a modest beginning to become the largest auctioneering firm in Ohio. His business was built on the simple, honest motto of "giving buyers and sellers a fair deal." A man of great integrity, Russell believed in keeping his business clean, and as a result, he drew a large following of admirers. This honest and straightforward way of conducting business led to recognition from his peers. Not only was Russell a member of the Ohio Auctioneers Hall of Fame, in 1981, he became the first Ohioan to be inducted into the National Auctioneers Hall of Fame. He retired in 1990.

Willard also left behind the family farm, but to pursue a life different from his brother. In 1944 he enlisted in the United States Navy and served as a gunner in the Merchant Marine fleet in the Pacific and European theaters. His honorable and distinguished service earned him several awards, including: the American Area, Asiatic Pacific Area, and European African ME Area Ribbons, and World War II Victory Ribbon. Upon his honorable discharge from the Navy, he became involved in the sheet metal trade. In 1974, he became the principle founder, along with his son, of yet another successful Kiko family business, Kiko Heating and Air Conditioning. The business is currently one of the largest heating and air conditioning businesses in the Akron-Canton area. Willard retired from his family business in 1982.

Following their retirements, Russell and Willard, avid outdoorsmen, spent much time together. Sadly, their long and successful lives recently came to an end. Russell died on December 12, 1997, after an extended illness, and Willard left this Earth on February 12, 1998, due to heart failure. Both men were survived by large, loving families. Russell has left behind Coletta his wife of 59 years, 12 children, 63 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. Willard has left Stella, his wife of 49 years, three children and 11 grandchildren.

I would like to add my acknowledgment and condolences to those already offered by the Senate of the 122nd General Assembly of